USDA Agricultural Research Service



These Peaches Are A "Joy" To Eat

Things are just peachy at the ARS Fruit and Tree Nut Research Unit in Byron, GA, after releasing three peaches: Crimson Joy, Liberty Joy, and Rich Joy.

This series is a fruit of labor intended to continue rejuvenating the peach industry in the Southeastern U.S. Thanks to increased competition from other fruits and imports, American peaches with aesthetic value and improved taste are more in demand than ever.

All three "Joy" peaches are yellow peaches with rosy skins, possessing balanced sugar-to-acid ratios that make them delicious. They differ in chill requirements, the minimum time a fruit-bearing peach tree must be exposed to certain cold temperatures in the winter before blossoming in the coming spring. Crimson Joy and Liberty Joy appear to be relatively less vulnerable to spring freezes. Rich Joy softens slowly, allowing a few more days to harvest. All three peach varieties should be a "joy" to grow and eat!